



JOURNEYS: DISCOVER NEPAL

10 days, Kathmandu to Kathmandu

Trip code ANENG

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Your Journeys Highlight Moment: SASANE Lecture, Kathmandu
- Your Journeys Highlight Moment: Traditional Weaving and Indigenous Peoples Lecture, Kathmandu
- Your Journeys Highlight Moment: Overnight at a Buddhist Monastery, Pharping
- Your Journeys Highlight Moment: Neydo Monastery Sunrise Chant, Pharping
- Your G for Good Moment: Sisterhood of Survivors Project, Kathmandu
- Your Welcome Moment: Meet Your CEO and Group
- Arrival transfer
- Tour of Kathmandu
- Bhaktapur guided tour
- Tour of Patan Durbar Square
- Visit Swayambhunath
- Chitwan National Park including a village walking tour and jeep safari
- Pokhara lake tour and hike to the World Peace Pagoda
- All transport between destinations and to/from included activities

The information in this trip details document has been compiled with care and is provided in good faith. However it is subject to change, and does not form part of the contract between the client and G Adventures. The itinerary featured is correct at time of printing. It may differ slightly to the one in the brochure. Occasionally our itineraries change as we make improvements that stem from past travellers, comments and our own research. Sometimes it can be a small change like adding an extra meal along the itinerary. Sometimes the change may result in us altering the tour for the coming year. Ultimately, our goal is to provide you with the most rewarding experience. Please note that our brochure is usually released in November each year. If you have booked from the previous brochure you may find there have been some changes to the itinerary.

VERY IMPORTANT: Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

VALIDITY: Valid for all trips departing July 10th, 2015 - December 31st, 2016

ITINERARY



NOTE: Accommodations vary per departure and are subject to change until tour start date; they are not final and should be used as examples only. Travellers may login to the G Adventures App to view accommodations specific to their departure.

Day 1

KATHMANDU

Arrive any time. Arrival transfer and welcome dinner are included.

Arrive at the joining point hotel at any time on Day 1 as no group activities are planned except for a group meeting in the early evening, followed by dinner.

Enjoy a six-course dinner at Krishnarpan Restaurant, serving fine Nepali cuisine (organic, too), a slow dining experience reminiscent of the meals relished by the kings of yesteryear.

Kathmandu is fascinating at every turn and a great place to just wander, seeing where the city may lead you.



Meals included

Dinner



TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Private Vehicle

Tribhuvan International Airport – Kathmandu

30m-30m

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

ACTIVITY

Your opportunity to meet your CEO and fellow travellers, and learn more about your tour. Opt to join the group for a local meal afterwards. Don't forget to see the notice in the lobby (or ask reception) for the official time and place to meet up with the group.

Nepalese Welcome feast

Kathmandu

Enjoy a six-course welcome dinner at Krishnarpan Restaurant, a culinary journey through the cuisine of Nepal. Serving some of the finest of Nepali flavours, enjoy this slow dining experience reminiscent of the ritual feasts enjoyed by the Kathmandu Valley's Newari community.

Spend the day exploring Kathmandu, including Boudhanath Stupa, one of the world's largest Buddhist shrines, and the Royal City of Bhaktapur. After, visit the Sisterhood of Survivors Project and learn how to make Nepalese momos (dumplings) from some of the women before enjoying an authentic local lunch and lecture with one of the women who have graduated from the Sasane paralegal program. Also, visit a local home and learn about National Geographic grantee Chhing Lhomi, who works to preserve ancient weaving traditions of the Upper Mustang region through the Himalayan Indigenous Society.

Some of the sites visited in Kathmandu were damaged in the earthquake in 2015. Restorations are ongoing to bring these beloved landmarks back to their previous glory.



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch



TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Private Vehicle

Kathmandu

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Bodhnath Stupa Visit

Kathmandu

Enjoy a visit to the Bodhnath Stupa, one of the largest Buddhist stupas in the world. Built in the 5th century, this UNESCO World Heritage site still attracts many pilgrims, particularly Tibetan Buddhists and local Nepalis. Take in the peaceful atmosphere and observe Buddhist monks in prayer in the monasteries surrounding the stupa.

Bhaktapur Excursion

Bhaktapur

3h-4h

Visit this unique old town known as the City of Devotees. Explore Hindu temples, pagodas, palaces, and monuments, including the beautiful wood-carved palace in Durbar Square. You can pick up clay pots and other souvenirs in the colourful open markets and taste home made yogurt, known as khopa dhau, which Bhaktapur is famous for.

ACTIVITY

Visit this G Adventures-supported grassroots organization that is helping to support rehabilitated survivors of human-trafficking and other at-risk women. SASANE, our project partners, train once vulnerable women to be certified paralegals, so that they are the first point of contact for other women coming out of abuse. Where survivors lack a high school diploma, the minimum requirements to be a paralegal, Planeterra and G Adventures have helped catalyze a hospitality program for these women to be reintegrated into a dignified work environment. The survivors will teach you how to make momos (traditional dumplings) as well as a Nepali lunch. The program helps support SASANE's outreach and education programs across Nepal.

ACTIVITY

Enjoy a talk with a woman who has graduated from the SASANE program, which trains victims of human trafficking and other at-risk women to be paralegals who, in turn, fight trafficking. Gain valuable insight and learn about the struggles these brave women face in helping others in their new roles as paralegals.

ACTIVITY

In Kathmandu, National Geographic grantee Chhing Lhomi works to preserve the ancient traditions of the Lowa community of the Upper Mustang region. We'll take the unique opportunity to visit a local home of a family from this region and enjoy a lecture from Chhing or one of her colleagues on traditional weaving methods, and hear about ongoing efforts with the Himalayan Indigenous Society.

Swayambhunath Temple Visit Kathmandu

Visit Swayambhunath Buddhist temple and Unesco World Heritage Site, the most ancient and enigmatic of all the holy shrines in Kathmandu. Explore the structure and be sure to check out the Buddha's eyes painted on each side of the Stupa. The site is also known as the monkey temple, for the vast amount of creatures who call the complex home.

Opt to take a morning Everest experience flight. Explore Patan Durbar Square then drive to Pharping for a unique overnight stay at a Buddhist Monastery guesthouse. Learn about life in the monastery from the inside, enjoying a behind the scenes peak at chanting and prayer services and opt to meditate alongside the monks or walk in the surrounding Village.

Experience the serenity of a Tibetan Buddhist monastery. The monastery guest house offers comfortable accommodations in a peaceful setting with balconies and private western-style bathrooms. There are approximately 200 monks in residence following the Nyingmapa tradition. This is a new monastery (2006), and income from the guest house directly supports it.



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch



TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Private Vehicle

Kathmandu – Pharping

1h-2h

25km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Patan Durbar Square Tour

Kathmandu

2h-3h

8km

Enjoy a guided tour of this spectacular square built primarily in the 16th and 17th centuries. Located within it are the Royal Palace and many temples built in the traditional Newari pagoda style. We also visit the Golden Temple and Patan museum. South of the square lies the Kumari Chowk, home to Nepal's living goddess, the Kumari, a prepubescent girl chosen as the incarnation of the Hindu goddess Talejn. The Kumari lives a cloistered life, rarely leaving the confines of the chowk. When she does, it is for important religious festivals, but her feet are not allowed to touch the ground. Once the Kumari reaches puberty, another 3-5-year-old girl will take her place. If she is receiving visitors, we may be able to stop by for a blessing.

ACTIVITY

Experience the serenity of a Buddhist monastery. The monastery guest house offers comfortable accommodations in a peaceful setting with balconies and private western-style bathrooms. Opt to participate in the life of the monks: take tea alongside them and enjoy the early morning chanting before experiencing the sunrise from the roof of this stunning monastery. There are approximately 200 young monks in residence, training in the Nyingmapa tradition. This is a new monastery (2006), and income from the guesthouse directly supports it.

Free Time

Pharping

Free time to explore the monastery and gain insight into both Buddhism and the life of a monk. Set in a peaceful wooded area only 22kms (13.7 mi) from Kathmandu, popular options at the monastery include walking in the hills and small surrounding village.



Optional Activities - Day 3

Swayambhunath Temple Visit

Kathmandu

Visit Swayambhunath Buddhist temple and Unesco World Heritage Site, the most ancient and enigmatic of all the holy shrines in Kathmandu. Explore the structure and be sure to check out the Buddha's eyes painted on each side of the Stupa. The site is also known as the monkey temple, for the vast amount of creatures who call the complex home.

Everest Flight

Mount Everest - Kathmandu

Get a close look at awesome Mt Everest, the highest mountain in the world, without having to do any climbing; this one-hour plane tour will give you an unforgettable experience. At times, the weather may cover Everest, but the surrounding view is still worth the ride!

Day 4

PHARPING/KURINTAR

Wake up early to enjoy the sunrise and morning chanting from the monastery. After, drive to Kurintar and hike to our remote lodge on the banks of Trishuli River and valley. Opt to relax and enjoy the pool or take a hike in the surrounding countryside.

Arrive at our remote lodge, which sits on a ridge amidst the hills and overlooks sandy beaches and a river. Forests cascade down the hillsides, enclosing tiny settlements of tribal people.

The lodge is only accessed by foot, so please expect a walk of approx. 30 to 45 minutes. Porters will be hired to carry our bags but please pack what you need for the night, as we will leave our larger bags in the vehicle.



Meals included

Breakfast | Dinner



TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

ACTIVITY

Rise before sunrise and enter the main hall of the Monastery to listen to the monks practicing their chanting. After, we enjoy the sunrise over the Valley from the Monastery roof.

Private Vehicle **Pharping - Kurintar** 3h30m-4h 125km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Walking **Kurintar** 30m-45m

Lace up your shoes and get to the next stop under your own power.



Optional Activities - Day 4

Kurintar Nature walk and Village visit **Kurintar** **Free** 30m-1h

Take a guided walk through the forests that cascade down the hillsides of Kurintar. Visit local villages inhabited by tribal people: Chepang, Dorai, Magar, some Brahman, and Chettri, making a living from foraging in the forests.

Drive to our lodge located on the bank of the Rapti river which borders the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Chitwan National Park. After lunch, board a traditional boat to view wildlife along the river.

Spend two nights enjoying cultural and wildlife excursions in and around Royal Chitwan National Park (RCNP), the oldest national park in Nepal. Established in 1973, it became a UNESCO World Heritage site in 1984. Within its area of 932km² (579 mi²), RCNP is home to at least 43 species of mammals, 450 species of birds, and 45 species of amphibians and reptiles, including sambars, chitals, rhesus monkeys, tigers and langurs.

The specifics and order of activities may change, depending on the season and local conditions. Your CEO will confirm the exact activities and timing with the naturalists upon arrival at the lodge.



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner



TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Walking

Kurintar

30m-45m

Lace up your shoes and get to the next stop under your own power.

Private Vehicle

Kurintar – Royal Chitwan National Park

2h30m-3h30m

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Chitwan Area Boat Excursion

Royal Chitwan National Park

1h-1h30m

Embark in traditional patela boats on a silent trip down the Rapti River, which borders the National Park to view aquatic birds, crocodiles, gharials, and the animals along the river banks.

Explore Chitwan National Park and the village surrounding it. Activities can include a village walk, boating, nature walks, and a jeep safari in the park in search of rhinos, leopards, wild elephants, black bears, monkeys, and crocodiles. If we are very lucky, we may catch a glimpse of the elusive Bengal tiger. This evening, also enjoy a Tharu cultural dance program presented by local Villagers.

The jeep safari is often prohibited during monsoon season by the park authorities; monsoon season is from June-September, and sometimes it can last till October. When the park is inaccessible, we will search out wildlife in the surrounding forest which is unfenced and just as likely to view animals. Boating is also subject to the water levels and local conditions on the Rapti River.



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner



TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Jeep Safari

Royal Chitwan National Park

3h-3h30m

Enjoy a jeep safari that begins in open grassland and moves into the dense Sal Forest, crossing the Reu River to see different wildlife. Continue down to the banks of Narayani River and spot gharials (freshwater alligators) basking in the sun. Also, view wildlife from Bhimle Machan (a wooden platform).

Chitwan Village Visit

Royal Chitwan National Park

Enjoy a visit to the farming Village bordering the National Park. Learn about the social and cultural aspects of the village people, what they farm, and see how they live day-to-day.

Day 7

CHITWAN NATIONAL PARK/POKHARA

Drive to beautiful Pokhara and immerse yourself in stunning views of the Himalayas. Enjoy an orientation walk with your CEO and opt to have dinner at one of the popular restaurants in town.

Nestled in a tranquil valley at an altitude of 827m (2,713 ft), beautiful Pokhara lies on a once vibrant trade route between India and Tibet. To this day, mule trains can be seen bringing goods to trade from remote regions of the Himalayas. This enchanting city has several beautiful lakes and offers stunning panoramic views of Himalayan peaks. It is popular place to relax and enjoy the beauty of nature.



Meals included

Breakfast



TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Private Vehicle

Royal Chitwan National Park – Pokhara

8h

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Orientation With CEO

30m-1h

Enjoy a brief walk with your CEO. He/she will give you some tips on finding things like supermarkets, main squares, and ATMs. For more specific or in-depth information, an official guided tour is recommended.

Enjoy the early morning sunrise and mountain views from Sarangkot, go boating in Phewa Lake, and hike to the World Peace Pagoda. Visit a Tibetan refugee settlement to learn more about this community, visit a photo gallery and enjoy a local lunch. This afternoon, opt to try paragliding.

The hike up to the World Peace Pagoda can be quite strenuous and is all steps up and back down. If you are not feeling so energetic, please let the CEO know and you can opt out of this activity.



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch



TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Sunrise at Sarangkot

Pokhara

Rise early and experience a spectacular sunrise with a panoramic view of the surrounding Himalayas. The highest altitude on this trek is at 1600 meters.

World Peace Pagoda Excursion

Sarangkot

2h-3h

4km

Walk up to the World Peace Pagoda, which was constructed by Buddhist monks. Enjoy the structure and the beautiful view around it.

Phewa Lake Boat Tour

Phewa Tāl

1h

Enjoy a boat ride on Phewa Lake and take in the serene environment and natural beauty, including the magnificent fish-tailed summit of Machhapuchhre (6,977m, 22,890 ft) rising behind it.

Tibetan Refugee Settlement

Pokhara

Visit the Tashiling Tibetan Refugee Camp, established by the United Nations in 1964 as a temporary settlement for the large number of refugees fleeing Tibet. Walk through this friendly quarter, now home to over 500 people. Visit the celebrated photo gallery here and then enjoy a traditional momo lunch at the local restaurant to support this incredible community.



Optional Activities - Day 8

Paragliding

Pokhara

8500INR

30m-1h

Enjoy a view from above of the beautiful city of Pokhara, which is surrounded by the snow-capped Annapurna mountain range.

Day 9

POKHARA/KATHMANDU

Catch a flight back to the capital, Kathmandu. Enjoy free time for shopping or opt to visit the Pashupatinath Ghats

Enjoy free time in the afternoon for exploring. Visit the burning ghats at Pashupatinath and Swayambhunath, or the monkey temple. Kathmandu is fascinating at every turn, and some travelers prefer to just wander, seeing where the city may lead them.



Meals included

Breakfast



TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Plane

Pokhara – Kathmandu

1h

Look! Up in the sky! It's a bird! It's a plane! It's... yup, it is a plane, actually.

Free Time

Kathmandu

Take some time to explore on your own or do some last minute shopping.



Optional Activities - Day 9

Pashupatinath Ghats and Temple Visit

Kathmandu

1000NPR

30m-1h

Visit Pashupatinath, one of the most sacred Hindu temple complexes in Nepal. Located on the banks of the Bagmati River, this is the final stop for many Hindus, who's families bring them here to set funeral pyres on the ghats to cremate their loved ones. Respectful viewing from across the river is culturally acceptable, you also will see sadhus (Hindu holy men) and pilgrims perform bathing rituals.

Please note the inclusion of a taxi costs extra.

Day 10

KATHMANDU

Depart at any time.

Feel free to depart at any time today, but remember that check out time from the hotel is 12:00pm.



Meals included

Breakfast



TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Departure Day

Not ready to leave? Your CEO can help with travel arrangements to extend your adventure.

What's included

- Your Journeys Highlight Moment: SASANE Lecture, Kathmandu
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- Your Journeys Highlight Moment: Neydo Monastery Sunrise Chant, Pharping
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- Arrival transfer
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- Bhaktapur guided tour
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- Visit Swayambhunath
- Chitwan National Park including a village walking tour and jeep safari
- Pokhara lake tour and hike to the World Peace Pagoda
- All transport between destinations and to/from included activities

What are the main highlights of this trip?

Experience the essence of serenity with an overnight stay at a Buddhist Monastery, meet a graduate of the G Adventures-supported paralegal program for women, search out rhino in Chitwan National Park, get a firsthand demonstration of traditional apron weaving, learn how to make Nepalese momos (dumplings)

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Is there a disclaimer I should read before booking this trip?

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VERY IMPORTANT: Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

Is there a travel disclaimer for my itinerary I should review before booking this trip?

While it is our intention to adhere to the route described below, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the itinerary and on occasion it may be necessary, or desirable to make alterations. The itinerary is brief, as we never know exactly where our journey will take us. Due to our style of travel and the regions we visit, travel can be unpredictable. The Trip Details document is a general guide to the tour and region and any mention of specific destinations or wildlife is by no means a guarantee that they will be visited or encountered. Aboard expedition trips visits to research stations depend on final permission.

Additionally, any travel times listed are approximations only and subject to vary due to local circumstances.

What important notes should I be aware of before the trip?

1. WEATHER

Weather conditions in the Himalayas can change rapidly and our Expedition Leader may be forced to change the trip itinerary accordingly. Travellers need to be prepared for all weather conditions. For more information please read the "what to take" section of this trip notes.

2. FITNESS

While there are no treks on this trip this will be a fair amount of walking, so you should have an average level of fitness.

3. DRONES IN NEPAL

Please note that drones and the flying of drones are prohibited in Nepal. If you violate these regulations the police may take you into custody.

4. COMBO TRIP

Please note that this tour combines with other G Adventures tours. As such, the staff and some travel companions on your tour may have previously been traveling together with G Adventures, prior to Day 1 of your tour. Likewise, some staff and travel companions may be continuing together on another G Adventures tour, after your trip concludes.

5. ACCOMMODATION NOTE:

Please be aware that properties we stay in with only two stories may not have elevators installed and climbing the stairs with your luggage will be necessary.

What is the role of the group leader during this trip?

All G Adventures group trips are accompanied by one of our National Geographic Expedition Leader throughout. The aim of the Expedition Leaders is to take the hassle out of your travels and to help you have the best trip possible. They will provide information on the places you are travelling through, offer suggestions for things to do and see, recommend great local eating venues and introduce you to our local friends. While not being guides in the traditional sense you can expect them to have a broad general knowledge of the countries visited on the trip, including historical, cultural, religious and social aspects. We also use local guides where we think more specific knowledge will add to the enjoyment of the places we are visiting- we think it's the best of both worlds.

What is the maximum and typical number of participants on this tour?

Max 15, avg 12

What meals are included in this trip?

9 breakfasts, 5 lunches, 4 dinners

What are the meals like on this trip?

Eating is a big part of traveling. Travelling with G Adventures you experience the vast array of wonderful food that is available out in the world. Generally meals are not included in the trip price when there is a choice of eating options, to give you the maximum flexibility in deciding where, what and with whom to eat. It also gives you more budgeting flexibility, though generally food is cheap. Our groups tend to eat together to enable you to taste a larger variety of dishes and enjoy each other's company. There is no obligation to do this though. Your Expedition Leader will be able to suggest favourite restaurants during your trip. Included breakfasts will usually be asian style consisting of noodles or congee (rice porridge) or bread and eggs. Vegetarians will be able to find a range of different foods, although in some areas the choice maybe limited. While trekking in remote regions food is included, plentiful and made of fresh local ingredients.

What are the modes of transportation on my trip?

Private bus, plane, boat, walking

Are local flights included in the cost of the trip?

All local flights are included in the cost of your tour unless otherwise noted. It is important that we have your passport information at the time of booking in order to process these tickets. Internal flight tickets are issued locally and will be given to you prior to the flight departure.

Is there an extra cost for travelling solo?

We believe single travellers should not have to pay more to travel so our group trips are designed for shared accommodation and do not involve a single supplement. Single travellers joining group trips are paired in twin or multi-share accommodation with someone of the same sex for the duration of the trip. Some of our Independent trips are designed differently and single travellers on these itineraries must pay the single trip price.

Where will we stay during the trip?

Hotels – 8 nts, monastery guesthouse – 1 nt.

If I choose to purchase My Own Room, are there any exceptions during the trip?

Please note that if you have booked the "My Own Room" option for this tour, you will receive your own single room for all night stops

What are the joining instructions?

For details of your joining hotel please refer to your tour voucher, G Account, the G Adventures App or contact your travel agent.

An arrival transfer is included when you arrive on Day 1, or if you arrive up to three days prior provided that you have booked your pre-accommodation through National Geographic Journeys in our joining hotel. Due to customer experience and quality considerations, all services related to the tour must be continuous.

Our driver will be waiting for you with a National Geographic Journeys sign, and they will be waiting for you outside the luggage hall. If for any reason you are not met at the airport, please call our local support line. If you are unable to make contact for whatever reason, please make your way to the joining point hotel via taxi.

Please note that day 1 is an arrival day and no activities have been planned on this day.

Upon arrival to your Joining Hotel (note that check-in time will be in the afternoon), look for a note or bulletin board in the reception with a note from your Expedition Leader. This note will give the details of your Welcome Meeting on day 1 (usually between 5pm and 7pm), where you will get a chance to meet your Expedition Leader and other travellers, as well as learn more about how the tour will run. If you don't see a note, please ask reception for details!

If you are arriving later and will miss the Welcome Meeting, your Expedition Leader will leave a note at reception for you with any information you may need, and with morning instructions for the next day.

What should I do if I can't find my airport transfer or experience arrival issues?

We don't expect any problems, and nor should you, but if for any reason you are unable to commence your trip as scheduled, as soon as possible please contact your starting point hotel, requesting that you speak to or leave a message for your Expedition Leader (if you are not on a group tour please refer to the emergency contact details provided in this dossier). If you are unable to get in touch with your Expedition Leader, please refer to our emergency contact details. If you have pre-booked an airport transfer and have not made contact with our representative within 30 minutes of clearing customs and immigration, we recommend that you make your own way to the Starting Point hotel, following the Joining Instructions. Please apply to your travel agent on your return for a refund of the transfer cost if this occurs.

Who do I contact for arrival issues or in the event of an emergency?

Should you need to contact us during a situation of dire need, it is best to first call either the G Adventures Local Representative (if one is listed below) or our G Adventures Local Office. If for any reason you do not receive an immediate answer, please leave a detailed message and contact information, so they may return your call and assist you as soon as possible.

AIRPORT TRANSFER

If you have purchased an arrival through G Adventures or if an arrival transfer is included in the cost of your tour, please note that:

Your arrival transfer has been arranged based on flight information provided to us. Included arrival transfers are provided from the nearest airport to your starting location. If you are advised of a flight schedule change or flight cancellation within 48 hours of your scheduled arrival time, please call the emergency contact number to advise of your new arrival flight information. If you do not, we will not be able to rearrange your arrival transfer and you will need to make your own way to the starting hotel at your own expense. If your arrival transfer does not arrive within 30 minutes after you have exited the arrivals area please take a taxi to your start point hotel.

If your call is specifically concerning Airport Transfer complications at Tribhuvan International Airport please call our local G Adventures Transfer providers directly at:

Ms. Binita Gurung - (Primary Contact)

From outside of Nepal: +977 98 0191 1000

From within Nepal: 98 0191 1000

Mr. Rajju Maskey - (Secondary Contact)

From outside of Nepal: +977 98 0201 4444

From within Nepal: 98 0201 4444

EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS

G Adventures South Asia Manager, Sorab Jassawalla (Delhi, India)

From outside of India: +91 88 5180 6614

From within India: 88 5180 6614

If you are unable for any reason to contact our local office, please call the numbers listed below which will connect you directly with our Sales team who will happily assist you. Hours of operation by region can be found [here](#).

Toll-free, North America only: 1 888 800 4100

Calls from UK: 0344 272 0000

Calls from Germany: 0800 365 1000

Calls from Australia: 1 300 796 618

Calls from New Zealand: 0800 333 307

Outside North America, Australia, New Zealand, Germany and the UK: +1 416 260 0999

What details should I be aware of when planning my departure day?

If you would like to book an airport Departure transfer for your tour, please contact our Sales Team or your Travel Agent in advance of travel.

What are the packing guidelines and luggage restrictions?

We suggest that you pack as lightly as possible as you are expected to carry your own luggage. As a rule we try not to have to walk more than 15-20 minutes with your bags which is why we recommend keeping the weight of your bags between 10-15kg/22-30lb. We recommended a backpack or soft case/duffle on wheels of small to medium size (no XXL ones please!). You will also need a day pack/bag to carry water, cameras and other electronics like ipods and mobile phones.

Standard luggage allowance for internal flights is 15kg (33lb) for checked luggage, and is 7kg (15lb) for carry-on luggage. Any charges for additional luggage or weight is the responsibility of the passenger.

What should I pack for this trip?

Cold Weather:

- Long-sleeved shirts or sweater
- Warm gloves
- Warm layers
- Scarf
- Warm hat
- Warm waterproof jacket

Conservative Dress:

- Modest clothing that covers knees and shoulders (Long pants, long skirts, shirts that cover shoulders)
- Shawl or scarf (for temple visits)

Documents:

- Flight info (required) (Printouts of e-tickets may be required at the border)
- Insurance info (required) (With photocopies)
- Vouchers and pre-departure information (required)
- Passport (required) (With photocopies)
- Visas or vaccination certificates (With photocopies)

Essentials:

- Toiletries (required) (Shampoo, bodywash, soap, etc.)
- Binoculars (optional)
- Camera (With extra memory cards and batteries)
- Cash, credit and debit cards
- Day pack (Used for daily excursions or short overnights)
- Ear plugs
- First-aid kit (should contain lip balm with sunscreen, sunscreen, whistle, Aspirin, Ibuprofen, bandaids/plasters, tape, anti-histamines, antibacterial gel/wipes, antiseptic cream, Imodium or similar tablets for mild cases of diarrhea, rehydration powder, water purification tablets or drops, insect repellent, sewing kit, extra prescription drugs you may be taking)
- Flashlight/torch (Headlamps are ideal)
- Fleece top/sweater
- Footwear
- Hat
- Headphones (Noise-cancelling recommended)
- Locks for bags
- Long pants/jeans
- Moneybelt
- Outlet adapter
- Personal entertainment (Reading and writing materials, cards, music player, etc.)
- Reusable water bottle
- Shirts/t-shirts
- Sleepwear
- Small travel towel
- Sunglasses
- Swimwear
- Watch and alarm clock
- Waterproof backpack cover
- Windproof rain jacket

Light Hiking:

- Hiking boots/sturdy walking shoes
- Hiking pants (Convertible/Zip-off and quick dry recommended)
- Walking poles

Smart Dress:

- Smart outfit (For evenings out)

Warm Weather:

- Sandals/flip-flops
- Sturdy water shoes/sandals
- Swimwear
- Shorts/skirts (Longer shorts/skirts are recommended)
- Sun hat/bandana

Where can I do my laundry on this trip?

Laundry facilities are offered by some of our hotels for a charge. There will be times when you may want to or have to do your own laundry so we suggest you bring non-polluting/biodegradable soap.

What are the visas and entry requirements for my trip?

All countries require a valid passport (with a minimum 6 months validity). Contact your local embassy or consulate for the most up-to-date visa requirements, or see your travel agent. It is your own responsibility to have the correct travel documentation. Visa requirements for your trip will vary depending on where you are from and where you are going. We keep the following information up to date as far as possible, but rules do change and sometimes without warning. While we provide the following information in good faith, it is vital that you check the information yourself and understand that you are fully responsible for your own visa requirements.

Visa information specific to your destination and nationality can be found in our Important Pre-Departure Information page [here](#)

NEPAL:

Nepal is now offering e-Visas for some nationalities. please visit this [link](#) for further information, and to check if your nationality is eligible for an e-Visa. You can apply for the visa [here](#).

We strongly suggest travellers eligible for an e-Visa complete the form online and print their receipt before arrival to Nepal to ease your entry and avoid queuing. Visas are available upon arrival at the airport and land crossings for those who are unable to receive their e-Visa beforehand.

What should I consider when planning my personal expenses and discretionary spending for this itinerary?

Every traveller is different and therefore spending money requirements will vary. Some travellers may drink more than others while other travellers like to purchase more souvenirs than most. Please consider your own spending habits when it comes to allowing for drinks, shopping and tipping. Please also remember the following specific recommendations when planning your trip.

What should I know about currency, credit cards, and exchanging money while on this tour?

As currency exchange rates in Asia fluctuate often we ask that you refer to the following website for daily exchange rates: www.xe.com. There are many ATM machines that accept both Visa and Mastercard but these are limited to major cities. Major credit cards are accepted in most shops but they may charge a 2-4% transaction fee.

What emergency funds do I need access to on this trip?

Please also make sure you have access to at least an additional USD \$200 (or equivalent) as an 'emergency' fund, to be used when circumstances outside our control (ex. a natural disaster) require a change to our planned route. This is a rare occurrence!

Do I need to pay a departure tax?

All departure taxes should be included in your international flight ticket.

What are the tipping guidelines for this trip?

It is customary in Nepal to tip service providers such as waiters, at approximately 10%, depending on the service. Tipping is expected - though not compulsory - and shows an expression of satisfaction with the people who have assisted you on your tour. Although it may not be customary to you, it is of considerable significance to the people who will take care of you during your travels. There are several times during the trip where there is opportunity to tip the local guides or drivers we use. You may do this individually, or your Expedition Leader will offer to collect the money and tip as a group. Recommendations for tipping drivers and local guides would range from \$4-5 USD per person per day depending on the quality and length of the service. For porters during the trekking portion of your trip, the recommended amount is 300-500Rs (\$4-7 USD) per porter per day; ask your Expedition Leader for specific recommendations based on the circumstances and culture.

Also at the end of each trip if you felt your National Geographic Expedition Leader did an outstanding job, tipping is appreciated. The amount is entirely a personal preference, however as a guideline \$10-15 USD per person, per day can be used.

What activities are optional on this trip?

Kathmandu

- Swayambhunath Temple Visit
- Pashupatinath Ghats and Temple Visit (1000NPR per person)

Mount Everest

- Everest Flight

Kurintar

- Kurintar Nature walk and Village visit (Free)

Pokhara

- Paragliding (8500INR per person)

Are there any health considerations I should know before travelling?

Please note inoculations may be required for the country visited. It is your responsibility to consult with your travel doctor for up to date medical travel information well before departure.

You should consult your doctor for up-to-date medical travel information well before departure. We recommend that you carry a First Aid kit and hand sanitizers / antibacterial wipes as well as any personal medical requirements. Please be aware that sometimes we are in remote areas and away from medical facilities, and for legal reasons our Expedition Leaders are prohibited from administering any type of drug including headache tablets, antibiotics, etc. In Asia pharmacies tend to stock the same western drugs as you get at home but they are usually produced locally so please bring the full drug name with you when trying to purchase a prescription drug. When selecting your trip please carefully read the brochure and itinerary and assess your ability to cope with our style of travel. Please refer to the Physical ratings for trip specific information. G Adventures reserves the right to exclude any traveller from all or part of a trip without refund if in the reasonable opinion of our Expedition Leader they are unable to complete the itinerary without undue risk to themselves and/or the rest of the group.

What general safety tips and free-time guidelines should I follow?

Many national governments provide a regularly updated advice service on safety issues involved with international travel. We recommend that you check your government's advice for their latest travel information before departure. We strongly recommend the use of a neck wallet or money belt while travelling, for the safe keeping of your passport, air tickets, travellers' cheques, cash and other valuable items. Leave your valuable jewellery at home - you won't need it while travelling. Many of the hotels we use have safety deposit boxes, which is the most secure way of storing your valuables. A lock is recommended for securing your luggage. When travelling on a group trip, please note that your Expedition Leader has the authority to amend or cancel any part of the trip itinerary if it is deemed necessary due to safety concerns. Your Expedition Leader will accompany you on all included activities. During your trip you will have some free time to pursue your own interests, relax and take it easy or explore at your leisure. While your Expedition Leader will assist you with options available in a given location please note that any optional activities you undertake are not part of your itinerary, and we offer no representations about the safety of the activity or the standard of the operators running them. Please use your own good judgment when selecting an activity in your free time. Although the cities visited on tour are generally safe during the day, there can be risks to wandering throughout any major city at night. It is our recommendation to stay in small groups and to take taxis to and from restaurants, or during night time excursions.

Protests and Demonstrations- Protests and demonstrations, even those that are well intended, have the potential to turn violent with no warning. Counter protests can also turn violent. Action by security forces to disperse demonstrators and protesters may occur at any time. If you are in an area where demonstrators or protesters are gathering, avoid the temptation of staying for a good photo opportunity and leave the area immediately.

Water based activities have an element of danger and excitement built into them. We recommend only participating in water based activities when accompanied by a guide(s). We make every reasonable effort to ensure the fun and adventurous element of any water based activities (in countries with varying degrees of operating standards) have a balanced approach to safety. It is our policy not to allow our Expedition Leaders to make arrangements on your behalf for water based activities that are not accompanied by guide(s).

Swimming, including snorkeling, is always at your own risk.

We take all prudent measures in relation to your safety. For ways to further enhance your personal safety while traveling, please visit:

www.gadventures.com/travel-resources/safety/

Are there any specific safety considerations for this itinerary?

We strongly recommend the use of a neck wallet or money belt while travelling, for the safe keeping of your passport, air tickets, travellers' cheques, cash and other valuable items. Leave your valuable jewellery at home - you won't need it while travelling. Many of the hotels we use have safety deposit boxes which is the most secure way of storing your valuables. A lock is recommended for securing your luggage.

What are the mandatory group rules regarding laws and behaviour?

Illegal drugs will not be tolerated on any trips. Possessing or using drugs not only contravenes the laws of the land but also puts the rest of the group at risk. Smoking marijuana and opium is a part of local culture in some parts of the world but is not acceptable for our travellers. Our philosophy of travel is one of respect towards everyone we encounter, and in particular the local people who make the world the special place it is. The exploitation of prostitutes is completely contrary to this philosophy. Our Expedition Leaders have the right to expel any member of the group if drugs are found in their possession or if they use prostitutes.

What are the mandatory travel insurance requirements for this trip?

Travel Insurance: Travel insurance is compulsory in order to participate on any of our trips. When travelling on a group trip, you will not be permitted to join the group until evidence of travel insurance has been sighted by your Expedition Leader, who will take note of your insurance details. When selecting a travel insurance policy please bear in mind that all clients must have medical coverage and that we require a minimum coverage of USD 200,000 for repatriation and emergency rescue. We strongly recommend that the policy also covers personal liability, cancellation, curtailment and loss of luggage and personal effects. If you have credit card insurance we require proof of purchase of the trip (a receipt of credit card statement) with a credit card in your name. Contact your bank for details of their participating insurer, the level of coverage and emergency contact telephone number.

What is Planeterra?

Planeterra International Foundation is a non-profit organization committed to turning travel into impact by helping local communities earn an income from tourism. Planeterra connects underserved local communities to the benefits of tourism by developing and supporting small community-owned businesses. These businesses support Indigenous people, empower women, grant youth access to employment opportunities, and protect the environment. Planeterra also works to ensure these businesses have a thriving customer base by integrating their projects into G Adventures' itineraries globally.

G Adventures is Planeterra's largest corporate donor, covering all operating costs, so 100% of your donation will bring opportunity to people in need.

G Adventures Dollar-a-day Program - Make Every Day Count - Turn your travel into impact with [Planeterra Foundation](#).

Did you know? Most communities around the world do not benefit from tourism. Give back to the places you visit on your travels by creating opportunities for local people to earn an income, and protect the environment.

Make every day count by donating \$1/day for the length of your trip, and join us in empowering the communities you will visit when you travel. 100% of your donation goes directly to Planeterra projects.

How should I dress to respect local customs during the tour?

In Asia the dress standard is more conservative than it is back home. When packing try to pick loose, lightweight, long clothing that will keep you cool if its hot and can be layered when cool. In predominately Buddhist, Hindu and Muslim countries we ask that you dress respectfully and avoid short shorts/skirts and singlets/tanktops when visiting temples or mosques or other holy sites.

How can I share feedback about my trip experience?

Earn 5% off your next G Adventures Tour (up to \$100 USD)*

After your travels, we want to hear from you! Your feedback information is so important to us and to thank you for your time, we are pleased to offer a 5% discount (up to a maximum of \$100 USD) off your next G Adventures holiday. All you need to do is submit the form within 4 weeks of the completion of your tour, and you'll be able to join the thousands of travellers who have taken 2, 3, 4 or even 10 or more tours with us!

Discount cannot be combined with other offers or applied to 'Independent' style trips. Maximum discount value is \$100 USD (or equivalent currency). Valid for new bookings only. G Adventures reserves the right to withdraw or modify this offer at any time without notice. Limited to one discount per person.

Does G Adventures have an email newsletter I can subscribe to?

Our adventure travel e-newsletter is full of travel news, trip information, interesting stories and contests. To avoid missing out on special offers and updates from G Adventures, subscribe at www.gadventures.com/newsletters/

Stay current on how our company invests in our global community through our foundation – Planeterra. Sign up for [Planeterra's monthly news](#) to learn more about how to give back and support the people and places we love to visit.

What are the age restrictions for this trip?

You must be 18 to travel unaccompanied on a G Adventures tour. For minors travelling with a guardian over 21 years old, the minimum age is 12.

Are international flights included in this trip?

No, international flights are generally not included in the price of your tour.

However, on some combo tours travelling between two different countries, international flights are included as part of the itinerary and price of the tour. Please speak to your GCO or booking agent for further details.

In addition, check-in times and baggage allowances/restrictions vary by airline and can change at any time. For the most up-to-date information for your flight, please contact your airline. We recommend checking in online in advance to avoid potential delays at the airport.

What should LGBTQ+ travellers know about safety and travel considerations on this trip?

The safety and well-being of all of our travelers is a priority at G Adventures and that includes our travelers who identify as part of the LGBTQ+ community. We recognize that there are specific concerns and questions you may have about your adventure in terms of safety and security. We encourage you to visit our [LGBTQ+ page](#) for useful resources to ensure you feel safe and comfortable throughout the duration of your trip. The Equaldex tool linked on this page can be of particular help when deciding where you may want to visit next.

Dossier Disclaimer

The information in this trip details document has been compiled with care and is provided in good faith. However it is subject to change, and does not form part of the contract between the client and the operator. The itinerary featured is correct at time of printing. It may differ slightly to the one in the brochure. Occasionally our itineraries change as we make improvements that stem from past travellers, comments and our own research. Sometimes it can be a small change like adding an extra meal along the itinerary. Sometimes the change may result in us altering the tour for the coming year. Ultimately, our goal is to provide you with the most rewarding experience. Please note that our brochure is usually released in November each year. If you have booked from the previous brochure you may find there have been some changes to the itinerary.

VERY IMPORTANT: Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

Itinerary Disclaimer

While it is our intention to adhere to the route described below, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the itinerary and on occasion it may be necessary, or desirable to make alterations. The itinerary is brief, as we never know exactly where our journey will take us. Due to our style of travel and the regions we visit, travel can be unpredictable. The Trip Details document is a general guide to the tour and region and any mention of specific destinations or wildlife is by no means a guarantee that they will be visited or encountered. Aboard expedition trips visits to research stations depend on final permission.

Additionally, any travel times listed are approximations only and subject to vary due to local circumstances.